

Appl. No. 10/735,326
Amtd. dated October 7, 2004
Reply to Office action of July 9, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Camp Jr. et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,867,131) hereinafter referred to as Camp.

The claims have been amended to clarify the claim language in view of the Examiner's comments regarding the previously recited "adapted to" claim language.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify the claim language. The cited Camp fails to teach or suggest a removable wireless network adapter that includes "a housing for the wireless communication circuitry, radio modem and the RF antenna" and that "the exterior surface of the computer system functions as a ground plane for the RF antenna." In Camp, the antenna 120 is located separately from the wireless modem adapter 121 and is not located inside of the housing along with the wireless circuitry and radio modem as is claimed in claims 1-2. A coaxial cable is required to interconnect the antenna 120 to the wireless circuitry in Camp. Furthermore, as currently recited, "the exterior surface of the computer system functions as a ground plane for the RF antenna" is another claim recitation that is not taught or suggested by Camp. Given the above, it is believed that claims 1-2 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 3 and 4 recite a wireless network adapter that mates with a computer system and includes among other things "a detachable cover that encases the communication circuitry and antenna and covers the recess." Again, Camp fail to teach or suggest such an element, given that in Camp, the antenna 120 and wireless circuitry are separate items and are not located within a recess as recited. As such, claims 3 and 4 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Regarding claims 5-6, Camp clearly fails to teach or suggest "a detachable cover that encases the communication circuitry and antenna and that functions as a latch release for the lid of the laptop computer." Given the above comments, claims 5-6 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

New claims 7-15 have been introduced; no new matter has been added. New claims 7-11 are believed to be in condition for allowance given that they add further non-obvious limitations to some of the existing claims. New method

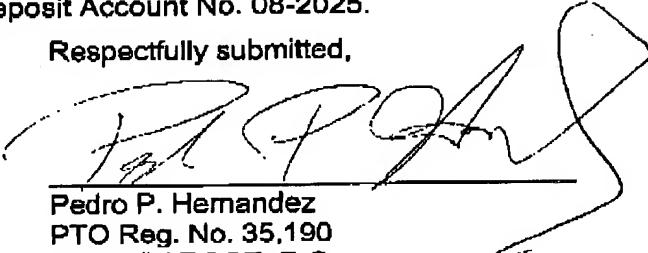
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claims 12-15 are also believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the cited art, given that the cited reference fails to teach a method for providing a wireless communication link to a computer as recited in claims 12-15.

In the course of the foregoing discussions, Applicants may have at times referred to claim limitations in shorthand fashion, or may have focused on a particular claim element. This discussion should not be interpreted to mean that the other limitations can be ignored or dismissed. The claims must be viewed as a whole, and each limitation of the claims must be considered when determining the patentability of the claims. Moreover, it should be understood that there may be other distinctions between the claims and the cited art which have yet to be raised, but which may be raised in the future.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for new addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,



Pedro P. Hernandez
PTO Reg. No. 35,190
CONLEY ROSE, P.C.
(972) 731-2288 (Phone)
(972) 731-2289 (Fax)
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
Legal Dept., M/S 35
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400